

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 180859

61
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:NCLEDSKY/AD
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
S/S - MR. PETER S. BRIDGES
EUR - MR. A. A. HARTMAN

----- 095757

O 212301Z JUL 76 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 180859

NODIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, GR

SUBJECT: TURKISH SEISMIC VESSEL IN THE AEGEAN

REF: ATHENS 7261

1. DEPARTMENT HAS REVIEWED RECORD OF MID-APRIL WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS AND THE SECRETARY CONCERNING THE AEGEAN SITUATION. THERE WAS, AS YOU WILL RECALL, MUCH TALK IN CONNECTION WITH THE DRAFT EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN BITSIOS AND THE SECRETARY OF WHAT WOULD CONSTITUTE "PROVOCATIVE ACTIONS" AND HOW WE WOULD "ACTIVELY AND UNEQUIVOCALLY OPPOSE" SUCH A MOVE BY EITHER SIDE. THAT DISCUSSION DID NOT RELATE SPECIFICALLY TO THE AEGEAN SAILING OF A TURKISH VESSEL.

2. THE QUESTION OF THE SISMII I (OR THE HORA AS IT WAS CALLED IN APRIL) WAS RAISED BY BITSIOS ON THE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 14, AND THE SECRETARY'S ONLY RESPONSE WAS "I WILL LOOK
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 180859

INTO IT." BITSIOS DID GO ON TO INDICATE THAT THE GREEK GOV-

ERNMENT DID NOT ACCEPT THE RIGHT OF A TURKISH VESSEL TO DO SEISMIC RESEARCH IN WHAT IT CONSIDERED THE GREEK CONTINENTAL SHELF, BUT THE SECRETARY DID NOT RESPOND DIRECTLY TO THIS ASSERTION, OR SAY ANYTHING TO THE EFFECT THAT THE MERE SAILING OF A TURKISH SCIENTIFIC SHIP IN A DISPUTED AREA OF THE

AEGEAN WOULD IN ITSELF CONSTITUTE A "PROVOCATION."

3. I WOULD SUGGEST THAT THESE POINTS BE MADE TO BITSIOS IN A LOW-KEY MANNER THE NEXT OPPORTUNITY YOU HAVE TO DISCUSS THE AEGEAN QUESTION WITH HIM. YOU SHOULD ADD THAT THE IMPORTANT THING NOW IS NOT TO DEFINE "PROVOCATION," BUT TO HAVE BOTH SIDES EXERCISE RESTRAINT IN SAYING AND DOING ANYTHING IN THE AEGEAN WHICH MIGHT EXACERBATE AN ALREADY DANGEROUS SITUATION.

ROBINSON

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, CONTINENTAL SHELF, SEISMOLOGY, RESEARCH, AEGEAN, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, CAT-C
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE180859
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NCLEDSKY/AD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P840093-1491
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760735/aaaabeie.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a <GWR 20040428 handling is nodis>; n/a, NODIS <GWR 20040503 handling nodis>; NODIS
Reference: 76 ATHENS 7261
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CHANGED> GWR 20040428; <DBA CHANGED> GWR 20040503
Subject: TURKISH SEISMIC VESSEL IN THE AEGEAN
TAGS: PFOR, PEPR, PLOS, TPHY, TU, GR, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (BITSIOS, DMITRIOS)
To: ATHENS ANKARA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006